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Health Department,
15, Stockwell Street,
Leek,
Staffs.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my tenth Annual Report, being for the year 1949. In doing so I follow the lines indicated by the Minister of Health in Circular 2/50.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The population is mainly composed of artisans employed in the textile industries of the manufacture and dyeing of silk and artificial silk.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

The area of the Urban District is 4,306 acres with an estimated population of 19,710.

The rateable value is £102,970 and a penny rate produces £412.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births -

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 313 | Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | 15.88 |
| Illegitimate | 10 | | .50 |
| Still Births | 6 | Rate per 1,000 total births | 18.57 |
| Deaths - | 270 | Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | 13.69 |

Mean age at death -

Males 59.01 years; Females 63.06 years; Males and Females 61.2 years

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list)

| | |
|---|---|
| No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis ... ... ... ... ... | nil |
| No. 30 Other Puerperal causes ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |

Death rate of infants under one year of age -

| | |
|---|---|
| All infants per 1,000 live births ... ... ... ... | 34.05 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... | 28.75 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | 200 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... ... ... | Nil |
| " " Whooping Cough (all ages)... ... ... | " |
| " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).. ... | " |

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

X Medical Officer of Health (Part time) -
Arthur Collis Hallowes, M.B., B.Ch. B.A.O. (T.C.Dub.) L.M.(Rotunda)

X Chief Sanitary Inspector - also Inspector under the Housing Acts, Factory and Workshops Act, Shops Acts and Petroleum Act -

James Rowbotham, Assoc. M.C.T., M.S.I.A.

X Sanitary Inspector - M. H. Beckwith M.R.S.I.

Clerk - Miss A. M. Longbottom

Engineer & Surveyor -
J. A. Gilchrist, M.inst. M. & Cy.E., P.A.S.I., A.M.I. Struct. E.

Sewage Works Manager -
R. Newman A.M. Inst. S.P.

TABLE 1.

Notifiable Diseases during the year.

| Disease | Notified | Removed to Leek Isolation Hospital, Bagnall Smallpox Hospital or N. Staffs. Infirmary. | | Deaths |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever | 30 | 30 | 100% | |
| Whooping Cough | 29 | | | |
| Measles | 5 | | | |
| Pneumonia | 11 | | | 6 |
| Cerebro spinal fever | 1 | 1 | 100% | |
| Poliomyelitis | 3 | 3 | 100% | |
| Paratyphoid | 1 | | | |
| | 80 | | | |

X. One half of Salaries is contributed by Exchequer grants

## TABLE 11

### Analysis of Notifiable Diseases

| | Total | Age 0 1 | 1 2 | 2 3 | 3 4 | 4 5 | 5 10 | 10 15 | 15 20 | 20 35 | 35 45 | 45 65 | 65- up. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever | 30 | | | 3 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 1 | | | | |
| Whooping Cough | 29 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 1 | | | | | |
| Measles | 5 | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Pneumonia | 11 | 2 | | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | 1 |
| Cerebro spinal fever | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Poliomyelitis | 3 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Paratyphoid | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | 80 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 26 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

## TUBERCULOSIS

There has been an increase in the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified, details of which are given in Tables 3 and 4.

17 cases of Pulmonary and 6 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis received Sanatorium treatment.

## TABLE 111. TUBERCULOSIS

| | NEW CASES | | | | MORTALITY | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pul. | | Non-Pul. | | Pul. | | Non-Pul. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1. | | | | | | | | |
| 5. | | | 3 | | | | | |
| 10. | | | 2 | | | | | |
| 15. | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 20. | | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| 25 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 35. | 1 | | | | 1 | | | |
| 45. | 4 | 3 | | | 2 | 2 | | |
| 65 up. | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| | 11 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 3 | | |
| | 17 | | 6 | | 7 | | | |

TABLE IV.

Notification of Tuberculosis

| Year | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1935 | 19 | 3 | 22 |
| 1936 | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| 1937 | 15 | 7 | 22 |
| 1938 | 16 | 5 | 21 |
| 1939 | 10 | 9 | 19 |
| 1940 | 10 | 2 | 12 |
| 1941 | 10 | 7 | 17 |
| 1942 | 20 | 4 | 24 |
| 1943 | 17 | 13 | 30 |
| 1944 | 6 | - | 6 |
| 1945 | 11 | 5 | 16 |
| 1946 | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| 1947 | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| 1948 | 10 | 5 | 15 |
| 1949 | 17 | 6 | 23 |

In submitting my tenth Annual Report, I wish to thank the Sanitary Inspectors and Staff for their willing co-operation and help in all the work carried out in my Department during the past year. Again this year no cases of Diphtheria were notified but there is a slight increase in the numbers of Tuberculosis in our area. We have had no epidemics and only three cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during the year. Since the Isolation Hospital has been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board the transfer of infectious diseases has become more difficult and now these cases are not readily admitted to hospital. There is still an urgent need for more houses and there are over 900 applications for new houses. Generally throughout the year the health of the people in the Urban area has been up to standard.

A. COLLIS HALLOWES.

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TABLE V1

ANALYSIS OF DEATH RETURNS

| | | Sex | All Ages |
|---|---|---|---|
| | All causes | M<br>F | 127<br>143 |
| 1. | Typhoid and Parat: Fevers | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 2. | Cerebro Spinal Fever | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 3. | Scarlet Fever | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 4. | Whooping Cough | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 5. | Diphtheria | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 6. | Tuberculosis of Respiratory system | M<br>F | 4<br>2 |
| 7. | Other Tuberculosis Diseases | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 8. | Syphilitic Disease | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 9. | Influenza | M<br>F | 5<br>3 |
| 10. | Measles | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 11. | Ac.Polio-myel & Polio-encephalitis | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 12. | Acute Inf. Encephalitis | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 13. | Cancer of B.Cav: Oesoph (M) Uterus (F) | M<br>F | 2<br>3 |
| 14. | Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum | M<br>F | 6<br>5 |
| 15. | Cancer of Breast | M<br>F | -<br>5 |
| 16. | Cancer of all other sites | M<br>F | 15<br>18 |
| 17. | Diabetes | M<br>F | 1<br>1 |
| 18. | Intracranial vascular lesions | M<br>F | 19<br>21 |
| 19. | Heart Disease | M<br>F | 44<br>46 |
| 20. | Other diseases of circ.system | M<br>F | 3<br>7 |
| 21. | Bronchitis | M<br>F | 4<br>2 |
| 22. | Pneumonia | M<br>F | 2<br>4 |
| 23. | Other resp. diseases | M<br>F | 3<br>1 |
| 24. | Ulcer of Stomach | M<br>F | 4<br>1 |
| 25. | Diarrhoea | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 26. | Appendicitis | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 27. | Other digestive diseases | M<br>F | 1<br>1 |
| 28. | Nephritis | M<br>F | 2<br>- |
| 29. | Puerperal Sepsis | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 30. | Other maternal causes | M<br>F | -<br>1 |
| 31. | Premature birth | M<br>F | 1<br>3 |
| 32. | Congenital malformations birth inj. infantile disease | M<br>F | 3<br>- |
| 33. | Suicide | M<br>F | -<br>- |
| 34. | Road traffic accident | M<br>F | 2<br>- |
| 35. | Other violent causes | M<br>F | -<br>3 |
| 36. | All other causes | M<br>F | 6<br>14 |

Health Department,
15,Stockwell Street,
Leek, Staffs.

# CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leek Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my sixteenth Annual Report being for the year 1949 and in doing so have followed the suggestions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50.

There has been a slight increase in the number of cattle slaughtered during the year which explains the increase in the number of whole carcases condemned. Altogether, 531 visits were paid to the slaughterhouse for the purpose of inspection, a weekly average of 10.2. The work has proceeded smoothly and again I am pleased to place on record the assistance and co-operation we have at all times received from the Manager - Mr. F. Foster. If it were not for this co-operation the difficulty of inspection would be greatly enhanced owing to the almost complete lack of proper facilities. Surely the time is not far distant when the responsible Ministries will allow us to go forward and build a small modern abattoir to serve the needs of this area which is essentially agricultural. Although our proposed abattoir is modest and compact it would serve a population of 30,000 to 40,000 and capable of enlargement, should it be necessary.

During the year 24 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for analysis and follow-up visits paid to premises where necessary. 16 samples of milk were also taken which on the whole were satisfactory.

54 houses were built during 1949 as against 49 during 1948.

The number of applicants for Council houses still remains large but we have undoubtedly eased the situation, many more houses are required however before the position can be anything like satisfactory.

Elsewhere in the report will be found details of work done under the heading Rodent Control. It will be noticed that in addition to "block treatment" 237 dwellings were visited and of these 147 received treatment. The Sewers were treated twice and the River Churnet also received one treatment. Six treatments were given to the Town's Tip. 15 third party premises were treated.

Finally, I should again like to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation and understanding shown to me at all times by the Medical Officer of Health and particularly do I appreciate and thank the Staff of the Health Department for their loyalty and willingness.

## MEAT

There was only one slaughterhouse in use during the year and 531 visits were made for the purpose of inspection.

The number of carcases inspected was 7,979 comprising 1,684 Oxen, 1,409 Calves, 4748 Sheep and 138 Pigs.

212 whole carcases and the following organs were found to be unsound or diseased and were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

| | Cattle | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number inspected | 1684 | 1409 | 4748 | 188 |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcase condemned. | 34 | 26 | 21 | 5 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 416 | 6 | 691 | 9 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis. | 26.72% | 2.27% | 14.99% | 10.86% |
| Tuberculosis only Whole carcase condemned. | 120 | 5 | - | 1 |
| Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned. | 362 | - | - | 11 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis. | 28.62% | .35% | - | 9.41% |

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS CONDEMNED
WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

| | CATTLE | | | | SHEEP | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Whole carcase & all offal | Quarters Hind | Quarters Fore | Meat | Whole carcase & all offal | Meat |
| TUBERCULOSIS | 120 | 9 | 19 | 1,416 lbs. | - | - |
| EMACIATION & OEDEMA | 24 | - | - | - | 12 | - |
| SEPTIC CONDITIONS | 4 | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| PERITONITIS | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| INJURY | - | - | - | - | 2 | 44 lbs. |
| MORIBUND | 3 | - | - | - | 4 | - |
| PYAEMIA | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| MEDICINAL TAINT | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| TRAUMATISM | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 154 | 9 | 19 | 1,416 lbs. | 21 | 44 lbs. |

| | CALVES | | | | PIGS | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TUBERCULOSIS | 5 | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| EMACIATION & OEDEMA | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| SEPTIC CONDITIONS | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | |
| PERITONITIS | 3 | - | - | - | - | - |
| INJURY | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 100 lbs. |
| MORIBUND | 4 | - | - | - | 3 | - |
| IMMATURITY | 14 | - | - | - | - | - |
| JAUNDICE | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 31 | - | - | - | 6 | 100 lbs. |

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS CONDEMNED
WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION.

| | CATTLE | | CALVES | SHEEP | PIGS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LUNGS: | | | | | |
| Tuberculosis | 308 | | - | - | - |
| Abscesses | 1 | | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia | 16 | | - | - | - |
| Cysts | 14 | | - | - | - |
| Parasites | 74 | | - | - | - |
| Emphysema | 10 | | - | - | - |
| Wired | 10 | | - | - | - |
| Congestion | 1 | | - | - | - |
| Total | 434 | | - | - | - |
| HEARTS: | | | | | |
| Pericarditis:T.B. | 3 | | - | - | - |
| Pericarditis | 3 | | - | - | - |
| Wired | 13 | | - | - | - |
| Total | 19 | | - | - | - |
| MESENTERIES: | | | | | |
| Tuberculosis | 100 | | - | - | 2 |
| Oedema | 3 | | - | - | - |
| Total | 103 | | - | - | 2 |
| STOMACHS:T.B. | 21 | | - | - | 1 |
| SPLEENS: T.B. | 6 | | - | - | - |
| BRISKET: T.B. | 5 | | - | - | - |
| LIVERS: | Whole | Part | | | |
| Tuberculosis | 26 | - | - | - | - |
| Angioma | 68 | - | - | - | - |
| Abscesses | 27 | - | - | - | - |
| Cirrhosis | 29 | - | - | - | - |
| Farry Degeneration | 135 | - | - | - | - |
| Distomatosis | 354 | 594 | 1 | 686 | - |
| Cysts | 17 | - | - | - | 2 |
| Total | 656 | 594 | 1 | 686 | 2 |
| HEADS & TONGUES: | | | | | |
| Tuberculosis | 175 | | - | - | 8 |
| Actinomycosis | 2 | | - | - | - |
| Abscesses | - | | - | - | 1 |
| Total | 177 | | - | - | 9 |
| SKIRTS:T.B. | 5 | | - | - | - |
| UDDERS:T.B. | 2 | | - | - | - |
| PLUCKS: | | | | | |
| Wired | - | | 1 | - | - |
| Melanosis | - | | - | - | 1 |
| Parasites | - | | 4 | 1 | - |
| Bruising | - | | - | 2 | - |
| Pneumonia | - | | - | - | 4 |
| Abscesses | - | | - | 2 | - |
| Oedema | - | | - | - | 1 |
| | - | | 5 | 5 | 6 |

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ one full time Rodent Operative for the destruction of Rats and Mice in business premises, private dwelling houses, public sewers and the Town Tip and during the year one complete block control of the whole town was done in addition to the normal work.

Inspections and treatments were divided as follows:-

Private Dwellings:

237 inspections
147 treatments

Sewers:

1 major treatment
1 maintenance treatment

3rd Party Premises:

30 inspections
15 treatments

Town Tip:

13 inspections
6 treatments

The banks of the River Churnet were inspected on two occasions but it was only found necessary to give one treatment which proved there was only a very slight infestation.

## TABLE V111

## H O U S I N G

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1) | (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 139 |
| | (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 172 |
| (2) | (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act 1936. | 12 |
| | (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 17 |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 10 |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 135 |

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 130

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | " |

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | 5 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | |
| (a) By owners | 5 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | nil |

## TABLE V111 (CONTINUED)

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | 26 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. | 26 |

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the room or tenement having been rendered fit. | Nil |

## FACTORIES ACTS 1937/1948.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of premises on register | 179 |
| Number of inspections during year | 37 |
| Number of cases in which defects were found | 7 |
| Number of cases in which defects were remedied during the year | 7 |

## HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

There are three motor vehicles engaged solely on the collection of house refuse disposed of by tipping.

2,868 loads of ashes and house refuse were removed during the year.

## TABLE IX.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE TOWN.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Premises cleansed and repaired ... ... ... | 2 |
| 2. | Drains tested ... ... ... | 20 |
| 3. | Drains reconstructed ... ... ... | 2 |
| 4. | " repaired ... ... ... | 19 |
| 5. | " cleansed ... ... ... | 27 |
| 6. | Water closets cleansed ... ... ... | - |
| 7. | " " repaired ... ... ... | 5 |
| 8. | " " constructed ... ... ... | 1 |
| 9. | Flushing arrangements provided ... ... ... | 4 |
| 10. | Waste pipes altered or repaired ... ... ... | 4 |
| 11. | Rainwater pipes repaired ... ... ... | 5 |
| 12. | Roofs and gutters repaired ... ... ... | 21 |
| 13. | Additional ventilation provided ... ... ... | 1 |
| 14. | Additional light provided ... ... ... | 1 |
| 15. | Damp conditions remedied ... ... ... | 26 |
| 16. | Yards drained and paved ... ... ... | 4 |
| 17. | Dustbins provided ... ... ... | 15 |
| 18. | Fireplaces provided or repaired ... ... ... | 13 |
| 19. | Coppers provided or repaired ... ... ... | 6 |
| 20. | Cases of overcrowding abated ... ... ... | 38 |
| 21. | Accumulations of manure etc., removed ... ... ... | 1 |
| 22. | Smoke nuisances ... ... ... | 2 |
| 23. | Cesspools cleansed ... ... ... | - |
| 24. | Rooms disinfested ... ... ... | 80 |
| 25. | Privies converted into water closets ... ... ... | - |
| 26. | Staircases repaired ... ... ... | 1 |
| 27. | Handrails provided ... ... ... | 2 |
| 28. | Windows repaired ... ... ... | 17 |
| 29. | Floors repaired ... ... ... | 13 |
| 30. | Walls and ceilings repaired ... ... ... | 28 |
| 31. | Food storage provided ... ... ... | - |
| 32. | Water supply provided or repaired ... ... ... | 2 |
| 33. | Sinks provided ... ... ... | 2 |
| 34. | Doors repaired ... ... ... | 5 |
| 35. | Back doors provided ... ... ... | - |
| 36. | Walls pointed ... ... ... | 10 |
| 37. | Chimney stacks repaired ... ... ... | 5 |
| 38. | Other nuisances ... ... ... | 4 |
| 39. | Septic tanks provided ... ... ... | 1 |
| | | 387 |

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of preliminary notices served | 92 |
| No. of preliminary notices complied with, without the service of statutory notices | 87 |
| No. of statutory notices served | 5 |
| No. of statutory notices complied with | 5 |

## TABLE X.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of premises where notifiable diseases have occurred | 91 |
| No. of premises inspected where " " " | 41 |
| No. of premises disinfected " " " " | 39 |
| Nuisances reported to Health Department | 139 |
| Inspection of premises where nuisances were found | 133 |
| " premises where no nuisances were found | 6 |
| " premises where offensive trades are conducted | - |
| " houses let in lodgings | 8 |
| " common Lodging Houses | 6 |
| " Workshops | - |
| " Factories | 37 |
| " Slaughterhouses | 531 |
| " Dairies, Milkshops & Farms | 40 |
| " Bakehouses | 50 |
| " Markets and Stalls | 52 |
| " Food premises | 38 |
| re-inspections after complaints | 286 |
| " under Housing Acts | - |
| | 1497 |

## WATER SUPPLY

The water supply has consistantly been of good quality and during the year 94 samples were taken which proved quite satisfactory.

## MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER 1926.

The register under this Order is made up as follows:-

95 persons registered

52 as cowkeepers

74 as retail purveyors

25 as retailers of bottled and sterilized milk

52 as wholesale producers

## THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER 1936.

Under this Order there are 24 persons licensed to sell Accredited Milk; three to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and one to sell Pasteurised Milk from seven premises.